

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT : Shigeo SHIBATANI, et al.  
SERIAL NO. : 10/566,157  
FILING DATE : January 27, 2006  
FOR : PLANTS PRODUCING HYALURONIC ACID  
GROUP ART UNIT : 1638  
EXAMINER : Brendan O. BAGGOT

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENTS**  
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO ORAL RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

SIR:

Applicants elect for examination **Group I, claims 1-19**, directed to a method, a transformed plant, and a transformed plant cell for producing hyaluronic acid in the above-identified application.

This election is made in response to an oral Restriction Requirement issued by the Examiner in a telephone call to Applicants' representative on October 27, 2006. The Examiner requested that Applicants elect for examination one of the following Groups of claims:

Group I, claims 1-19, directed to a method, a transformed plant, and a transformed plant cell for producing hyaluronic acid; or

Group II, claims 20 and 21, directed to a hyaluronic acid.

Applicants request that the above election be acknowledged in the first Office Action in this application.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (202) 220-4200 to discuss any issues concerning this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayment associated with this filing to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: November 7, 2006

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